BOB STUMP, ARIZONA DUNCAN HUNTER, CALIFORNIA JOHN R. KASICH, OHIO HERBERT H. BATEMAN, VIRGINIA JAMES V. HANSEN, UTAH CURT WELDON, PENNSYLVANIA JOEL HEFLEY, COLORADO JIM SAXTON, NEW JERSEY STEVE BUYER, INDIANA TILLIE K. FOWLER, FLORIDA JOHN M. MCHUGH, NEW YORK JAMES M. TALENT, MISSOURI TERRY EVERETT, ALABAMA ROSCOE G. BARTLETT, MARYLAND HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON, CALIFORNIA WATTS, JR., OKLAHOMA MAC THORNBERRY, TEXAS JOHN N. HOSTETTLER, INDIANA SAXBY CHAMBLISS, GEORGIA VAN HILLEARY, TENNESSE IOF SCARBOROLIGH, FLORIDA WALTER B. JONES, NORTH CAROLINA LINDSEY GRAHAM, SOUTH CAROLINA JIM RYUN, KANSAS BOB RILEY, ALABAMA JIM GIBBONS, NEVADA MARY BONO, CALIFORNIA JOSEPH R. PITTS, PENNSYLVANIA ROBIN HAYES, NORTH CAROLINA STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL, CALIFORNIA DON SHERWOOD, PENNSYLVANIA

## **COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES**

## U.S. House of Representatives

Wlashington, **DC** 20515-6035

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH CONGRESS

FLOYD D. SPENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA, CHAIRMAN

May 17, 2000

Support the Bipartisan Defense Bill Vote for H.R. 4205 KE SKELTON, MISSOURI
NORMAN SISISKY, VIRGINIA
JOHN M. SSPATT, JR., SOUTH CARCLINA
SOLOMON P. ORTIZ, TEXAS
CWEN PICKETT, VIRGINIA
LANE EVANS, ILLINOIS
GENE TAYLON, MISSISSIPPI
NEIL ABERCROMBIE, HAWAII
MARTIN T. MEEHAN, MASSACHUSETTS
ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD, GUAM
PATRICK J. KENNEDY, RHODE ISLAND
ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH, ILLINOIS
SILVESTRE REYES, TEXAS
THOMAS H. ALLEN, MAINE
VIC SNYDER, ARKANSAS
JIM TURNER, TEXAS
ADAM SMITH, WASHINGTON
LOREITA SANCHEZ, CALIFORNIA
JAMES H. MALONEY, CONNECTICUT
MIKE MEINTYRE, NORTH CAROLINA
CIRIO D. RODRIGUEZ, TEXAS
CYNTHIA A. MICKINNEY, GEORGIA
ELLEN O. TAUSCHER, CALIFORNIA
ROBERT E. ANDREWS, NEW JERSEY
BARON P. HILL, INDIANA
MIKE THOMPSON, CALIFORNIA
JOHN B. LARSON, CONNECTICUT

ANDREW K. ELLIS, STAFF DIRECTOR

## Dear Colleague:

The House will soon consider H.R. 4205, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001. As the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities, we are writing to inform you of the key elements in the legislation affecting the military construction (MILCON) program.

We remain concerned about the deteriorating condition of our military installations and are especially concerned about the impact of inadequate facilities and military housing on readiness and retention. The testimony received by the subcommittee through the oversight hearing process clearly demonstrates the need for reinvestment in basic infrastructure. The bill contains a number of important provisions affecting the military construction and military family housing programs of the Department of Defense that will help alleviate part of the problem.

H.R. 4205 would authorize \$8.4 billion for the military construction and military family housing programs of the Department of Defense and the military services for FY 2001. The recommendations of the committee represent a \$400 million increase above the President's request, including \$163 million of unfunded requirements identified by the military services. Included in the bill is an additional \$253 million to support construction of troop housing, military family housing, and other facilities that directly affect the quality of life for military personnel and their families, and an additional \$221 million to support upgrades affecting the training and readiness of the reserve components.

H.R. 4205 continues the bipartisan commitment that the House has consistently demonstrated in recent years to improving the Nation's military infrastructure and to enhancing the quality of life for military personnel and their families. The MILCON provisions of the bill were reported by the Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities on a vote of 17-0 and adopted by the full committee by voice vote. We urge you to support H.R. 4205.

Sincerely,

Chairman

Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities

Gene Taylor

Ranking Member

Subcommittee on Military Installations and Facilities